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*[Meadows] has been meeting with former President Donald Trump and "Cabinet members" about plans to "move forward in a real way," he claimed in a Newsmax interview on Friday. He refused to divulge the specifics of plans being discussed with Trump – whom he referred to as "the president" – at the former president's Bedminster golf club in New Jersey.*

As [the video](#) of the exchange shows, Meadows described Trump as "a president who is fully engaged, highly focused, and remaining on task."

The North Carolina Republican added, in apparent reference to Trump and his team, "We met with several of our cabinet members tonight."

The *New York Times*' Maggie Haberman [responded](#) the next day, "I can't stop thinking about this interview. The former chief of staff is talking as if there's a shadow presidency going on (there isn't) at a time when there's a conspiracy theory that Trump will be reinstated (he won't)."